

We claim:

1. A method for identifying a compound capable of modulating the Notch pathway comprising:
 - a) providing an animal or a cell in culture;
 - b) administering to the animal a test compound or contacting the cell with a test compound; and
 - c) detecting Math1 expression in a sample from the animal or the cell, wherein a change in Math1 expression in the presence of said compound compared with Math1 expression in the absence of said compound indicates that said compound modulates the Notch pathway.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said detecting is achieved by measuring the amount of Math1 protein, the amount of Math1 mRNA, or the level of Math1 activity.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said detecting is performed on a sample obtained from an animal and the sample is selected from tissue, blood, plasma, serum, stool, urine, saliva, tears, and semen.
4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the sample is stool.
5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said detecting is achieved by measuring the amount of Math1 protein.
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein said detecting is performed on a sample from the cell in culture, said sample selected from cells, cell lines, and conditioned cell culture media.
7. A method for detecting modulation of the Notch pathway comprising detecting an alteration in the expression of Math1.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein detecting an alteration in the expression of Math1 is achieved by comparing Math1 expression levels of different samples.